



Statistical Advance:
Analyzing the Miller Lite 140 at Riverhead Raceway

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. (July 28, 2008) – The 47th running of the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour at Riverhead (N.Y.) Raceway will take place on Saturday, Aug. 2 with the Miller Lite 140.

At Riverhead Raceway:

- The NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour has held races at Riverhead each year since the series was formed in 1985.
- Riverhead played host to at least two, and as many as three, NWMT races from 1985-2002.
- Among the early entries for the Miller Lite 140, seven have reached Victory Lane at Riverhead before ... **Mike Stefanik** (6 wins), **Ted Christopher** (4), **Donny Lia** (4), **Rick Fuller** (2), **Dan Jivanelli** (2), **Wayne Anderson** (1) and **Ed Flemke Jr.** (1).
- At .25-miles, Riverhead is the smallest track of the eight that the NWMT will race at in 2008.

Season Recap:

- **Chuck Hossfeld** is the current points leader and the only repeat winner so far in 2008 ... He has victories at Stafford (5/23) Motor Speedway and New Hampshire Motor Speedway (6/28).
- **Ed Flemke Jr.** captured the season-opener at Thompson (Conn.) International Speedway, his first victory since 2004.
- **Ted Christopher** won the second race of the season at Stafford (Conn.) Motor Speedway to move into a tie for fifth place on the all-time wins list.
- **Ronnie Silk** won the 75-lap green flag-only race at Thompson (Conn.) International Speedway for his second career victory.

Riverhead Raceway Data

- Race # 6 of 16 (8-2-08)
 Track Layout: .25-mile banked oval
- One of the oldest asphalt tracks in the nation, Riverhead opened in 1949.
 - Has one of the oldest NASCAR affiliations.
 - Has held a total of 46 NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour races.
 - This is the second of three New York tracks that will play host to the NWMT in 2008.

Qualifying/Race Data

2007 pole winner: Ted Christopher (76.174 mph, 11.815 sec.)
2007 race winner: Donny Lia (37.609 mph, 57 min. 26 sec.)
Track qualifying record: Mike Stefanik (77.841 mph, 11.562 sec., 6-24-92)
Track race record (200 L): Dan Jivanelli (59.762 mph, 50 min. 27 sec., 8-26-87)

NWMT Active Win Leaders at RR

1. Mike Stefanik	6
2. Ted Christopher	4
Donny Lia	4
4. Rick Fuller	2
Reggie Ruggiero	2

NWMT Active Pole Leaders at RR

1. Ed Flemke Jr.	4
2. Chuck Steuer	3
3. Ted Christopher	2
Rick Fuller	2
Reggie Ruggiero	2
Mike Stefanik	2

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- In the first qualifying format race of 2008, **Matt Hirschman** earned his first career NWMT victory at Spencer Speedway on July 12.
- **James Civali, Bobby Grigas III** and **Ryan Preece** have earned their first career poles in 2008.

Selected Driver Highlights:

Wayne Anderson (No. 15 Chevrolet)

- Last full-time season on the NWMT was 1995 ... Will be the seventh year in a row he has entered the NWMT race at Riverhead, his home track.
- Will be honored for his 1994 NWMT title prior to the race as part of NASCAR's celebration of 60 years of Modified champions.

Eric Beers (No. 46 Chevrolet)

- Has two wins and six poles in 118 career starts.
- Has three top-five finishes in six starts this year.
- Recorded three-straight top-10 finishes at Riverhead in 2004-05.

Jimmy Blewett (No. 19 Chevrolet)

- Has two wins and one pole in 52 career starts.
- His fourth place finish at Spencer bumped him from 22nd to 14th in the season standings.
- Is the younger brother of the late John Blewett III, a winner at Riverhead in 1999.
- Won the Baldwin-Evans-Jarzombek memorial race as part of Riverhead's NASCAR Whelen All-American Series on July 19 ... The win moved him up to ninth in the NWAAS national standings.

Ted Christopher (No. 36 Chevrolet)

- Has 28 wins and 13 poles in 251 career starts.
- Won the Spring Sizzler at Stafford (Conn.) Motor Speedway on April 27.
- Has at least one victory in 10 consecutive seasons.
- Is 95 points behind leader Chuck Hossfeld in the season standings.
- Has led 197 of 720 (27%) total laps this year, most of any driver.

NWMT at RR – Last Five Years

Best Avg. Start Position (Min. 5 Starts)

1. Donny Lia	7.3
2. Frank Vigliarolo.....	7.4
3. Chuck Steuer.....	7.9
4. Tony Ferrante Jr.....	9.1
5. Mike Stefanik	9.5

Best Avg. Finish (Min. 5 Starts)

1. Donny Lia	5.4
2. Jerry Marquis.....	6.1
3. Howie Brode	8
Ted Christopher.....	8
5. Mike Stefanik	9.5

Most Top-Fives

1. Donny Lia	5
Jerry Marquis.....	5
3. Ted Christopher.....	4
4. Mike Stefanik	3
5. three drivers with	2

Most Top-10s

1. Jerry Marquis.....	6
2. Ted Christopher.....	5
Donny Lia	5
4. Howie Brode	4
Tony Hirschman	4
Mike Stefanik	4

Most Laps Led

1. Donny Lia	516
2. Ted Christopher.....	275
3. Jerry Marquis.....	200
4. Chuck Hossfeld	136
5. Mike Stefanik	116

- Seven races held.

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James Civali (No. 28 Chevrolet)

- Has four wins in 42 career starts.
- Finished in the top 10 in the first three races, but best finish since is 26th at Spencer.

Ed Flemke Jr. (No. 10 Chevrolet)

- Won the season-opener at Thompson.
- Has 17 wins and 16 poles in 360 career starts.
- Has made a record 301 consecutive starts ... The last time he did not start an NWMT event was on July 22, 1992 at Riverside Park Speedway.

Rick Fuller (No. 77)

- 1993 NWMT Champion ... Will be honored prior to Sept. 7 event at Thompson.
- Has 20 wins and 11 poles in 431 career starts ... Last won at Waterford in May, 2003.
- Has two top-10s in his last four starts at Riverhead.

Bobby Grigas III (No. 09 Chevrolet)

- Captured his first career Coors Light Pole Award at Thompson on June 19.
- Registered best career finish (third) at the Icebreaker, also at Thompson.
- Led the first laps of his career in the Icebreaker ... His 87 total laps led this year rank third.

Matt Hirschman (No. 59 Chevrolet)

- Earned his first NWMT win at Spencer last time out ... Has 21 top 10s in 45 career starts.
- Has finished on the lead lap in 23 consecutive races, the most among all drivers.
- Has top-10s in three of the last four races and is now fourth in the standings.

Chuck Hossfeld (No. 4 Dodge)

- Current NWMT points leader, 95 ahead of Ted Christopher, the largest margin this year.
- Has finished in the top four in each of the season's first six races.
- Is the only driver to earn multiple wins so far in 2008, Stafford (5/23) and New Hampshire (6/19).
- Has led 110 laps this year, second only to Christopher's 197.
- Has seven wins, 42 top fives and 61 top 10s in 101 career starts.

Donny Lia (No. 18 Chevrolet)

- The 2007 NWMT champion driving the No. 4 for Bob Garbarino.
- Drives the No. 71 NationRides.com Chevy full-time in the NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series.
- Will compete in the Miller Lite 140, which will be his first NWMT start since last year's title.
- Is the defending champion of this race, and has four career NWMT wins at Riverhead.

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Ronnie Silk (No. 79 Pontiac)

- Earned his second career victory at Thompson on June 19.
- Is ninth in the season standings ... Has three top-10 finishes in a row.
- Has 17 top-10s in 46 career NWMT starts.
- Is second in the standings after three races in the NASCAR Whelen Southern Modified Tour, 36 points behind L.W. Miller.

Mike Stefanik (No. 16 Pontiac)

- Seven-time NWMT Champion ... Was honored as part of NASCAR's 60 years of Modified champions celebration prior to the TSI Harley-Davidson 150 at Stafford.
- Has a NWMT record 68 victories in 371 career starts.
- Has four top-fives in 2008 and is sixth in the standings.
- Active wins leader at Riverhead with six ... Last win was in 2001.

Todd Szegedy (No. 2 Ford)

- The 2003 NWMT Champion ... Will be honored at New Hampshire on Sept. 28.
- Has 12 wins in 100 career starts, the best start-to-victory ratio (8:1) of any active driver.
- Is in third place in season points ... He and Chuck Hossfeld are the only drivers to finish in the top 10 in each of the season's first six races.

Jamie Tomaino (No. 99 Chevrolet)

- The 1990 NWMT Champion ... Was honored prior to the last race at Spencer.
- Has only missed four of the 495 races in the history of the NWMT (1985-pr.).
- Is one of three drivers (Rick Fuller, Carl Pasteryak) to make a start in all 24 years of the NWMT.

Upcoming Milestones/Benchmarks:

- **Ted Christopher** has 28 career victories ... The next win would put him in sole possession of fifth place on all-time list, breaking a tie **Mike Ewanitsko**.
- **Todd Szegedy's** next win would be the 13th of his career, which would put him in sole possession of 13th on the all-time list.
- **Donny Lia** has 11 career NWMT wins ... His next would place him in a tie with Szegedy, George Kent and Richie Evans on the all-time list.
- **Mike Stefanik** has 40 career poles ... The next would place him in a tie with **Tony Hirschman** for the all-time lead.
- **Jamie Tomaino** will extend his own series record by making his 492nd career start.
- **Ed Flemke Jr.** is expected to extend his record consecutive starts streak to 302.

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